

# MORE THAN 200 PERSONS KILLED BY TORNADO IN AND NEAR OMAHA

Four Hundred Injured and 450 Homes  
Demolished—Most of the Casual-  
ties in Nebraska Metropolis.

## MANY HOURS REQUIRED TO GATHER AND SEND OUT NEWS

All Forms of Communication Almost Annihilated  
—Tension Verged on Panic—Soldiers Aid in  
Bringing Order Out of Chaos—3,000  
Buildings Damaged—Loss \$5,000,000.

Omaha, Neb., March 24.—More than 200 persons were killed and 400 were injured in a wind storm that demolished 450 homes, damaged hundreds of other buildings and caused a monetary loss of \$5,000,000, according to reports available up to a late hour to-night from the main path of the tornado in and near Omaha.

Most of the casualties were in Omaha. Nearby towns in Nebraska and across the Missouri river in Iowa also suffered severely. Wires were snapped off in all directions and it took many hours to gather and circulate news of the disaster.

Fire broke out in the debris of many wrecked buildings in the Nebraska metropolis, and these were menaces for some time as the fire companies were hindered by fallen walls and blocked streets. A heavy rain followed the wind, however, which although it drenched the hundreds of homeless persons also put out the flames.

Of the 202 known dead within the area covered by the storm, 152 were residents of Omaha. The remaining dead are scattered over a considerable range of territory, with Council Bluffs reporting 12; Yutan, Neb., 16; Berlin, Neb., 7; Glenwood, Iowa, 5; Neola, Iowa, 2; and Bartlett, Iowa, 3. The same cities and towns report an aggregate of 400 injured and 450 homes demolished.

Perhaps 1,500 persons are homeless. Aside from this 3,000 buildings were damaged, many of these being churches and school buildings. Eight of Omaha's public schools were wrecked.

All forms of communication were almost annihilated by the wind and only two or three wires were in working condition when daylight relieved a night of high tension, which at times almost became panic. Soldiers, State and national troops, poured into the city during the day to aid in bringing order out of what for 20 hours had been chaos.

To-night these guardians of the peace are patrolling the residence districts aiding the police to maintain order and relieve such cases of suffering as come to their notice.

Three points in the path of the storm offered the greatest sacrifices. These were at 4th and Farnham streets, where a crowd had sought refuge in a garage at 24th and Lake streets, where a moving picture theatre was demolished, and at 24th and Willis avenue, where a pool room had attracted a crowd. In each of these places the fatalities were large.

The citizens quickly rose to the situation and measures of relief were organized promptly. To-night troops had been gathered for the relief of the destitute.

Telegraph and telephone communication, which had been at a standstill for 24 hours, improved during the night, but communication was far from normal and it is believed that the full efforts of the storm may not be known for days.

Reconstruction was begun to-night when, at a meeting of the real estate exchange, a committee was appointed to take up the work.

Insurance companies experienced heavy losses most of their fire policies carrying a tornado clause.

**HOSPITALS FULL OF INJURED.**  
The hospitals in Omaha to-night are full of injured, many of whom have not yet been identified, apparently because their friends are either dead or among the injured.

To-night the stricken section of Omaha is patrolled by government troops from Fort Omaha and the State Militia. Governor Morehead has taken personal charge of the State troops. There has been little or no looting. The business men are co-operating in every way. The Omaha hotels have thrown open their doors for the injured. Every train into Omaha to-day brought scores of physicians and others from nearby towns who have friends and relatives here, and they made up one continual stream of visitors to the morgues and the hospitals.

The storm appeared to have started at 4th and Center streets. From there it traveled north, sweeping slightly to the east of Leavenworth street. Then it took a northwesterly course to 4th and Farnham streets, sweeping its way through everything. Still traveling a little east of north, it covered a course from 4th street east to 15th street, a distance of six blocks.

Striking Bemis park, where the homes of the well-to-do Omahans are located, the storm turned sharply to the east and passed along Parker and 24th streets to 24th street, where its path was a little wider. In the latter section the destruction is complete.

Finally at 14th and Spencer streets the storm swept over the bluffs, high above the Missouri river, demolished the Missouri Pacific roundhouse, leveled the big trestle of the Illinois Central railroad over Carter lake, wrecked a number of buildings near the Rod and Gun club, a fashionable outdoor place, and disappeared to the northeast.

**CIT SWATH 24 BLOCKS LONG.**  
It was late to-day before all the details of the storm with accompanying wreckage were known, even within this city itself. The pathway of the storm, from three to seven blocks in width, cut a swath 24 blocks long.

The total number of deaths in this part of the city reached almost 50. Within the space of this storm center, which if made rectangular would cover a quarter section of land, 1,200 houses are wrecked, 100 bodies have been recovered and search of the ruins is being made for others. Several are known to be still in the ruins at the end of the storm's path.

Estimates of the value of property demolished by the storm vary between \$3,000,000 and \$12,000,000. Some of the more substantial houses can be partially rebuilt, but this number is small and where the buildings have not been torn asunder they have been so twisted that even the material is useless for rebuilding.

To-day five public schools were out of commission in Omaha. Seven

### TOLL OF THE TORNADO.

Chicago, March 24.—Totals of the dead and injured in the track of Sunday's storm are as follows, according to reports received to-night:

	Dead.	Inj.
Omaha and suburbs	152	330
Terre Haute, Ind.	18	250
Chicago	5	10
Yutan, Neb.	16	20
Berlin, Neb.	7	12
Council Bluffs, Ia.	12	15
Bartlett, Iowa	3	10
Weston, Iowa	2	2
Neola, Iowa	2	22
Glenwood, Iowa	5	2
Bebbe, Iowa	2	2
Malvern, Iowa	2	2
Walton, Ill.	1	2
Sterling, Ill.	1	1
Traverse City, Mich.	11	1
Perth, Ind.	1	1
Total	225	682

By far the greater damage was done in and near Omaha, Neb. The wind swept along, taking its toll here and there. The tornado even jumped over portions of the city in its path, swooped down again and dashed obstructions to earth. The

gale left Omaha only to sweep on to towns in Iowa in the same destructive manner that it had attacked villages in Nebraska. The rage of the element even extended in a somewhat abated form to points far to the east in Illinois.

No sooner had the great wind passed than a second violent gale swept over much the same territory, but with lessened fury.

What seems to have been a separate storm swept portions of Indiana, being greatest in and near Terre Haute. There nearly a score of persons were slain and hundreds were hurt. Other places in Indiana report lesser damage.

Little Gladys Crook was revived after a house had been blown over her and she had been imprisoned for more than half an hour. It was necessary to chop a large hole in the side of the house before she was taken out unharmed.

**GIRLS IN MOTHER'S ARMS.**  
Cliff Daniels, his wife and their two children, met death together. When soldiers, digging about the ruins of the home, found the four bodies, the two little girls were clasped in the arms of their mother, while the body of the father was over them as if he had tried to shield them with his own body.

Mary Knudsen, a servant girl, was blown out of the home of her employer and badly frightened. She ran all the way downtown to fall fainting in front of a hotel. Her story was the first news of the disaster received in the downtown section.

Although Dr. and Mrs. D. C. Herant escaped without injury, from their home the sad mother of Mrs. Bryant was found in the cellar and was rescued with difficulty. Debris had piled over her until only her head was exposed and she was unable to take any steps to free herself.

From the ruins of a negro pool hall the body of a negro was taken out along with many others. In one hand he clutched a roll of bills, and was ascertained, whether broken or unbroken, and electric light and gas pipes blown to the ground. Nearly 50 small boys, mostly from the homes of men, women and children, were found in a large pile of debris. The property damage in the city and suburbs is estimated at over \$5,000,000.

**SAVED BY HIDING IN CELLAR.**  
W. H. Dixon of North 34th street was bruised about the head and his wife and three children were seriously injured. Dixon started upstairs as he saw the home of his neighbors to the south. An instant later the wind struck his house and he was hurled downstairs into a dining room, flat on his face. Dazed, he struggled to his feet and hurried his family to the cellar. A second later his home was swept away and the family in the basement had but the sky above them. Flames sprang up on every side.

"It seemed as if the whole city was afire," said Dixon. "Then I lifted my wife and children out and down the street, following some of my unfortunate neighbors. We lost our all but were thankful for our lives."

Last night communication with the outside world was entirely cut off. The only available report of the disaster was taken to Lincoln by train and there first sent the Associated Press wires. Telephone and telegraph wires along all the railroads were down. Last night at midnight the battle of the lines commenced and at eight o'clock to-night two new wires were working out of the city. Commercial bulletins were sent to nearby cities in the care of operators in an apparently hopeless tangle between Omaha and points directly east. Three miles of wires were down directly east of Council Bluffs, while at several other points in the territory between Omaha and Chicago the lines were paralyzed.

**RAILROADS UNDER THOSE CONDITIONS**  
A return to first principles and trains between Omaha and Chicago crawled along with flagmen walking before them, taking the place of train dispatchers and block signals.

**ORGANIZING RELIEF WORK.**  
Omaha, Neb., March 24.—City commissioners met early and appropriated \$25,000 for relief work. Citizens present at the meeting organized a relief committee and donated \$25,000.

Governor Morehead notified Mayor Dahlman that he would send a special message to the Legislature asking for the appropriation of sufficient funds to care for the homeless throughout the State.

Police Commissioner Ryder issued orders for all persons in the vicinity of the wrecked district to remain closed of until further notice.

Cots were placed in the auditorium and those without shelter will be housed there. The city rooms have been thrown open to the homeless and the Union Relief Union will provide 75 men with beds.

The citizens committee has asked the newspapers to accept donations and turn the money over to the committee for distribution.

The mayor and the chamber of commerce to-night received messages of sympathy and offers of aid from many cities, including Seattle, Spokane, Denver and San Francisco.

The message from Mayor Ralph of San Francisco said: "Our citizens feel deeply your misfortune. Can we help you in any way? We are ever mindful to your generosity to us in our hour of trouble."

**HELPLESSNESS OF SUFFERERS.**  
Kansas City, Mo., March 24.—K. J. Davis, a grain dealer, who was in Omaha yesterday when the tornado struck, told of the helplessness of the sufferers. "The people in the city were in a state of panic," he said. "The people in the city were in a state of panic, and the people in the city were in a state of panic."

The worst thing about it all, even for the dead, was the helplessness of the sufferers. The people in the city were in a state of panic, and the people in the city were in a state of panic.

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## OMAHA OFFERED \$1,000,000 FUND

Offers of Financial Assistance  
Come from Every Section  
of the Nation.

### EIGHT OF 500 INJURED DIE

Destitution Augmented by Nearly  
Three Inches of Snow—  
Systematic Relief Work  
Well Started.

Chicago, Neb., March 24.—For the first time since the disastrous tornado of Sunday, the people of Omaha to-day began to count the cost in lives and dollars.

Not less than 500 lives were snuffed out within the vicinity of the city proper and not less than 50 persons in surrounding towns lost their lives. Omaha to-day had a total of 200 persons killed and 400 injured.

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**BURLINGTON SAVINGS BANK**  
Incorporated 1847  
**Total Assets \$15,093,216.95**  
**4% Interest** ALL TAXES PAID BY THE BANK **4% Interest**  
Money deposited on or before April 30th will draw interest from April 1st. Business can be transacted by mail as well as in person.  
**Write for further information**  
C. P. Smith, President.  
Henry Green, Vice-President, P. W. Wood, Treasurer.  
P. W. Perry, 2nd Vice-President, J. S. Isham, Assistant Treasurer.

**IF YOU WOULD BE PROSPEROUS--**  
**DO THIS**  
GIVE YOUR PROTECTOR TO THIS BANK THIS VERY DAY. FOR YOUR OWN SAKE YOUR PROSPERITY BEGINS THE MONTH YOU OPEN A SAVINGS ACCOUNT. EVEN THE SMALLEST SAVINGS HAVE OUTRIGGED THE MEANS OF GRASPING OPPORTUNITIES THAT LEAD TO WEALTH.  
ONE DOLLAR IF YOU CAN'T READE MORE--OPEN AN ACCOUNT AT THIS BANK.  
THE MOST SUCCESSFUL MEN IN TOWN HAVE MONEY ON DEPOSIT HERE--WILL YOU?  
**THE BURLINGTON TRUST CO**  
City Hall Square--North.

**SAFETY IS THE FIRST CONSIDERATION**  
No money loaned at over 6 per cent.  
Deposit your money in a strong mutual Savings Bank.  
Place your valuable papers in a Safe Deposit Box--they are only \$3.00 per year.  
**WINOOSKI SAVINGS BANK**  
Winoski, Vt. Organized 44 Years Ago.  
Yes, Sixth door from the corner in the "Winoski Block."

**Better Than Four Per Cent.**  
This bank will help you money early and pay you TWO PER CENT. SEMI-ANNUALLY. Interest payable January 1st and July 1st. We collect a portion of your savings. Check your savings can be sent by mail.  
**HOME SAVINGS BANK**  
Burlington, Vt.

**HOWARD NATIONAL BANK**  
BURLINGTON, VERMONT.  
Capital, \$200,000. Surplus, \$200,000.  
A general Banking business transacted. Foreign Exchange issued and remittances made to all foreign countries. Interest paid on time deposits. Safe deposit boxes to rent.  
**DIRECTORS:** E. E. Burgess, E. A. Lyman, A. G. Whittemore, H. T. Rutter, Hugh McLean.  
**OFFICERS:** E. E. Burgess, President; E. A. Lyman, Vice-President; H. T. Rutter, Cashier; H. S. Wood, Assistant Cashier.

**CITY TRUST COMPANY**  
Office with Howard National Bank  
**DIRECTORS:** E. E. Burgess, President; E. A. Lyman, Vice-President; H. T. Rutter, Cashier; H. S. Wood, Assistant Cashier.  
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**SCALES WALLS OF PRISON AT WINDSOR**  
Patrick McGowan, Burlington Burglar, Had Served Third of Six-Year Term.  
Windsor, March 26.—Patrick McGowan, a convert to the Vermont State prison, escaped from that institution about six weeks ago by scaling the walls. It was not until the day for a few months ago that he was caught and returned to the prison. McGowan was sentenced to six years for burglary and had served about two years of a six-year term. He was in the prison when he escaped. McGowan was sentenced to six years for burglary and had served about two years of a six-year term. He was in the prison when he escaped.

**LIGHTNING STRIKES GARAGE**  
Two Large Automobiles Are Destroyed—Chaffinch Badly Burned.  
Burlington, March 26.—A lightning strike destroyed two large automobiles and badly burned a chaffinch in a garage at the corner of 1st and 2nd streets. The fire started in the chaffinch and spread to the automobiles. The fire was extinguished by the fire department. The damage was estimated at \$5,000.

**VERMONT NOTES**  
The body of George White, who had been missing since December 3rd from the Burlington prison, was found Saturday afternoon in the West River. It was thought at the time he had escaped and that he had been found near the river. White was a prisoner in the Vermont State prison. He was sentenced to six years for burglary and had served about two years of a six-year term. He was in the prison when he escaped.

**The Progressive Young Merchant**  
Beginning business with a small capital, as well as the merchant or firm of established credit and standing, will receive at the Chittenden County Trust company every consideration and courtesy within the range of secure banking principles. Checking accounts are cordially invited.  
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